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APPROVED COURSE OF STUDY FOR HIGH SCHOOLS AND  
ACADEMIES IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK

THE legislature of 1895 enacted the following law :

CHAPTER 1031, LAWS OF 1895

An Act to encourage and to promote the professional training of teachers.

*The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows :*

SECTION 1.<sup>1</sup> The board of education or the public school authorities of any city or of any village employing a superintendent of schools, may establish, maintain, direct, and control one or more schools or classes for the professional instruction and training of teachers in the principles of education and in the method of instruction for not less than thirty-eight weeks in each school year.

SEC. 2.<sup>2</sup> Towards the maintenance and support of these schools and classes established pursuant to this act, or heretofore established and maintained for similar purposes, and whose requirements for admission, and whose course of studies are made with the approval of the state superintendent of public instruction, and under whose direction such classes shall be conducted, the said superintendent is hereby authorized and directed in each year to set apart, to apportion, and to pay from the free school fund one dollar for each week of instruction of each pupil, and the sum of forty thousand dollars is hereby appropriated to carry out the provisions of this act until the close of the school year of eighteen hundred and ninety-seven. Such apportionment and payment shall be made upon the report of the local superintendent of schools filed with the state superintendent of public instruction, who shall draw his warrant upon the state treasurer for the amount apportioned.

SEC. 3. If the total sum to be apportioned and to be paid, as provided by section 2 of this act, shall in any one year exceed the said sum of one hundred thousand dollars, the said state superintendent of public instruction shall apportion to each school and class its *pro rata* of said sum upon the basis described in section 2 of this act.

SEC. 4. After January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, no person shall be employed or licensed to teach in the primary or grammar schools of any city authorized by law to employ a superintendent of schools, who has not had successful experience in teaching for at least three years, or, in lieu

<sup>1</sup> As amended by chapter 495, laws of 1897.

<sup>2</sup> As amended by chapter 646, laws of 1896.

thereof, has not completed a three years' course in and graduated from a high school or academy having a course of study of not less than three years, approved by the state superintendent of public instruction, or from some institution of learning of equal or higher rank, approved by the same authority, and who, subsequently to such graduation, has not graduated from a school or class for the professional training of teachers, having a course of study of not less than thirty-eight weeks, approved by the state superintendent of public instruction. Nothing in this act shall be construed to restrict any board of education of any city from requiring such additional qualifications of teachers as said board may determine, nor shall the provisions of this act preclude the board of education of any city or village from accepting the diploma of any state normal and training school of the state of New York, or a state certificate obtained on examination, as an equivalent for the preparation in scholarship and professional training herein required.

SEC. 5. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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In accordance with the above act State Superintendent Charles R. Skinner has issued the following approved course :

A course of study in a high school or academy to receive the approval of the state superintendent of public instruction, as required by chapter 1031 of the laws of 1895, entitled "An Act to encourage and promote the professional training of teachers," must include the following as a minimum requirement :

1. *English.* The course in English must include grammar rhetoric, and composition, and literature. Amount of time required : grammar, 100 hours<sup>1</sup> (a thorough course in grammar before entering the academic grades will be accepted as an equivalent to the 100 hours prescribed) ; rhetoric and composition, 200 hours ; literature, 200 hours. The requirements of the Association of Schools and Colleges of the Middle States and Maryland for admission to college shall be the minimum standard for the work in literature.

2. *History.* The course in history must include American history, English history, Greek and Roman history, and civics. Amount of time required ; American history, 200 hours (including 50 hours for the intensive study of some special period of American history) ; English history, 100 hours ; Greek and Roman history, 100 hours ; civics, 100 hours. Two hundred hours of American history in sub-academic grades will be accepted as an equivalent for 100 hours of the time above prescribed for this subject.

3. *Mathematics.* The course in mathematics must include a review of arithmetic, algebra through quadratics, and plane geometry. Amount of time

<sup>1</sup>The term "hour," as used in this course, means a recitation period of not less than 45 minutes.

required : arithmetic (review), 50 hours ; algebra, 200 hours ; plane geometry, 200 hours.

4. *Science*. The course in science must include physics, chemistry, physiography, botany, zoölogy, and physiology. Individual laboratory work is required. Amount of time required : physics, 200 hours ; chemistry, 100 hours ; physiography, 50 hours ; botany, 50 hours ; zoölogy, 50 hours ; physiology, 50 hours. One hundred additional hours in advanced physics or advanced chemistry, or 50 hours in each subject, may be substituted for the work in botany and zoölogy.

5. *Foreign Languages*. The course in foreign languages must include either Latin or French or German. Amount of time required : Latin, 400 hours ; French, 400 hours ; German, 400 hours.

6. *Drawing*. The course in drawing must include the principles and practice of representation, construction, and decoration. Amount of time required : 200 hours.

7. *Vocal Music*. The course in vocal music must include vocal culture (in class), sight-singing from the staff, and the common technical terms used in vocal music. Amount of time required : 100 hours.

#### CLASSICAL SUBSTITUTIONS

Two hundred additional hours in Latin and 400 hours in Greek may be substituted for the time prescribed for chemistry, physiography, botany, and zoölogy.

Two hundred additional hours in Latin and 400 hours in either French or German may be substituted for the time prescribed for chemistry, physiography, botany, and zoölogy.